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Executive Registry

70-8422

30 October 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Draft of Memorandum to Station Chiefs re
Briefings of Congressmen and Other U. S.
Officials

1. Attached hereto is a draft of the memorandum which you requested we write providing guidance to our Station Chiefs on the handling of briefings for Congressmen and other U. S. officials.

2. This draft has been coordinated with Mr. John Warner and he has contributed part of the language.

3. I thought you might like to have this available in connection with the meeting you are having tomorrow with

(Signed) Richard Helms

Richard Helms
Acting Deputy Director (Plans)

Attachment

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D R A F T

30 October 1958

Dispatch to All Chiefs of Stations and Bases

SUBJECT: Congressional and Other Official Visitors

1. Congressional and other American officials planning to visit abroad in connection with their duties often ask KUBARK to arrange general area background and current information briefings by our field representatives. In some cases KUBARK is itself anxious to have certain of these officials briefed by Station Chiefs on our activities since as members of congressional committees or staffs, or of other government bureaus, they have a legitimate interest in our work.

2. Particularly in the case of Congressmen who are members of the established subcommittees for KUBARK (including certain staff members), the Agency is now taking a positive approach to make them more knowledgeable of our activities. In the past, the Agency has not generally taken the initiative but now we wish to do more in these cases than simply responding to questions. We hope to furnish these individuals with sufficient information so that they can form an impression of our problems and requirements in terms of funds and

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personnel. Thus, they will be enabled to cope with the various aspects of KUBARK on a more knowledgeable basis as these matters arise in the usual course of business in the Congress.

3. Since such officials usually go abroad through the auspices and facilities of other departments, they are generally provided with escorts and other assistants who make every effort to protect them from too crowded a schedule. A special effort on the part of our field chiefs is required to make sure that they establish direct contact with the official in question and make themselves known and available to him for the briefing he has requested.

4. Needless to say, we wish to avoid any impression that we are not being fully cooperative by actively taking the initiative, directly with the officials concerned, to make our availability known to them in the most positive sense. Serious misunderstandings which can arise from any omission on our part in this respect can have highly undesirable consequences in our vital relations with the Congress and with other government agencies.

5. Please give special attention to Headquarters requests for such briefings of American officials. We shall notify you of each particular case, furnishing such additional guidance as may be deemed necessary.

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